

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

: Werner Menk

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: 10/619,712 : July 14, 2003

TC/A.U. Examiner

J. :

Docket No. : 03-422 Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits the documents listed hereinbelow, copies enclosed.

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 5,236,660 entitled HEAT-RESISTANT VERMICULAR OR SPHEROIDAL GRAPHITE CAST IRON, By Reynaud et al., patented August 17, 1993. The abstract is attached hereto.
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 5,784,882 entitled EXHAUST MANIFOLD FOR CONDUCTING EXHAUST GAS OUT OF AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE, By Bonny et al., patented July 28, 1998. The abstract is attached hereto.

- U.K. Patent No. 1 482 724, entitled WEAR-RESISTANT CAST-IRON ALLOY,
  By Beyer et al., published August 10, 1977. This patent discloses an alloy having
  fine-grain carbidic phases only. The alloy is used for wear resistance properties,
  not for high temperature applications. The use of a pre-alloy using Al and Zr is
  not disclosed. The graphitic matrix is obtained by annealing, not straight upon
  casting. The graphite is disclosed as lamellar or nodular, not spheroidal. The
  alloy is grey cast, not spheroidal cast iron. The structure is described as
  martensitic or bainitic, not ferritic.
- (4) German Patent No. 29 15 217 entitled GREY ALLOY IRON FOR USE AT HIGH..., By Dobbener, published March 12, 1987. This patent discloses an iron which is melted, and then treated with alloys to obtain a compsn. by wt. of < 0.2% P, and 0-1.3% Cr, Ni, Cu and/or Mo. all these % being w.r.t. the % Fe. Next, 0.02-0.5% Ti, Zr, Hf, V, Nb, Ta and/or W are added w.r.t. the total wt. of the melt, followed by an inoculant. The inoculant pref. converts 5-50% of the carbonnitride forming elements present to nitrides, especially by using max. 0.1 wt % inoculant w.r.t. the % Fe. The castings are preferably used for parts subjected to high temp., or thermal shock especially in IC engine exhaust systems.
- (5) German Patent No. 42 22 104 entitled CAST-IRON@ IC ENGINE EXHAUST
  MANIFOLD..., By Dobbener, published January 13, 1994. This patent discloses

the cast-iron exhaust manifold is for an IC engine. The system is fitted with a catalyser and is designed to give a high degree of noise damping. At least one pipe section (A, B, C) is inserted into the manifold (1), and is of thin walled, temp. resistant material. This material is an alloy of chromium, nickel, molybdenum steel.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

By

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Date: October 22, 2003

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on October 22, 2003.

Rachel Piscitelli

Approved for use through 10/31/2002, OMB 0651-0031

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Complete if Known

Application Number 0/619,712

Filing Date July 14, 2003

First Named Inventor Werner Menk

Group Art Unit

Examiner Name

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1 Attorney Docket Number 03-422

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Docume  Number Kind Cod  (if known	e <sup>2</sup> Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevan Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
-		5,236,660	Reynaud et al.	08-17-1993		
		5,784,882	Bonny et al.	07-28-1998		
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	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	For Office <sup>3</sup>		iment (ind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sub>6</sub>	
		UK	1 482 724		Beyer et al.	08-10-1977			
		DE	29 15 217		Dobbener	03-12-1987			
		DE	42 22 104		Dobbener	01-13-1994			
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark hee if English language Translation is attached.